

International Council of Cruise Lines  
and  
United States Coast Guard

Outline Partnership Agreement  
for  
International Passenger Vessel Industry

**Purpose and Objective of the International Council of Cruise Lines (ICCL)/United States Coast Guard (USCG) Partnership**

1. The purpose of this new quality partnership is to strengthen the communication and working relationship between the international passenger vessel industry and the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and to establish a program of cooperative meetings between the industry and -the Coast Guard. The partnership objective.- for both the ICCL and the USCG~ is to provide a mechanism for cooperative ICCL/USCG activities which support the two organizations' common goals of promoting passenger and crew safety, securi~ and environmental protection.

**Outline of the ICCL/USCG Partnership**

2. The government-industry partnership covered by this agreement aims to establish a continuous program of cooperative meetings that will address issues of passenger vessel safety and environmental protection. This program is not intended to usurp the sovereignty of the foreign-flag or international conventions which currently govern the safe operations of international passenger vessels; nor is the program intended to supplant the role of U.S. port state control regulation or policy. Rather, this program is intended to complement these governmental and industry functions by providing an efficient mechanism for joint Coast Guard/industry action in a results-oriented, non-regulatory environment.

**Details of the ICCL/USCG Partnership**

3. The ICCL and USCG agree to establish a partnership to advance mutual goals of passenger and crew safety, security and environmental protection. This partnership involves creating a Partnership Action Team comprised of government and industry members. The PAT will:
  - a. Serve as a forum for high-level industry/USCG dialogue; facilitate discussions between the ICCL and USCG leadership; foster industry/agency cooperation to avoid the problems and misunderstandings caused by the absence of ongoing communication.
  - b. Identify areas where safety and the protection of the environment can be furthered through cooperative efforts of the U.S Coast Guard and the industry.

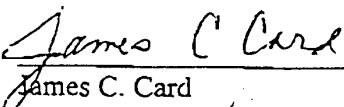
- c. Promote the partnership at all levels of the ICCL and USCG organizational structures; foster the high-level organizational commitment needed to ensure the successful implementation and evolution of the partnership.

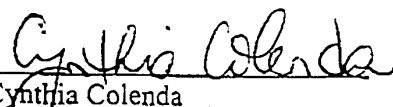
#### **Action**

4. In order to consummate, formalize and communicate the government/industry partnership described above, the ICCL and USCG agree to undertake the following actions:
  - a. The ICCL and USCG will use their best efforts to promote this Partnership within their respective organizations, commencing with the execution of this agreement.
  - b. The ICCL and USCG will establish a Partnership Action Team (PAT) by July 25, 1997. (Date of the second ICCL membership meeting).
  - c. The PAT will meet on a regular basis to implement the objectives for this agreement.
  - d. The PAT will evaluate its results commencing one year from the execution of this agreement. Based on this evaluation the PAT will recommend to the ICCL and USCG whether to continue the partnership, and to what extent, if any, the program should be improved, modified, or expanded.

#### **Institution of the ICCL/USCG Partnership**

5. The outline of this partnership is effective upon the signing of this agreement. It is informal in nature and may be modified by mutual agreement or terminated by either party' at any time. The parties pledge- to act in good faith at all times and to use their best efforts to accomplish the goals, objectives and actions summarized herein

  
James C. Card  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety  
and Environmental Protection

  
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March 12, 1997